

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating mechanical pulp, comprising:

adding an aliphatic percarboxylic acid to the pulp, ~~in the~~ in an amount of 0.5-5 kg/ton of pulp, ~~to affect the~~ to improve opacity wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is added to the pulp in connection with or after bleaching.
2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the amount of aliphatic percarboxylic acid that is added is 1-3 kg/ton of pulp.
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is selected from among performic acid, peracetic acid or perpropionic acid.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is distilled or equilibrated peracetic acid.
5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 5 1, wherein the pulp has been bleached with hydrogen peroxide and/or dithionite.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the aliphatic percarboxylic acid is added at a pulp consistency of 1-40%.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein a mixture of aliphatic percarboxylic acid and Caro's acid is added to the pulp.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of using aliphatic percarboxylic acid, comprising adding the acid to a mechanical pulp in connection with or after bleaching the mechanical pulp to improve opacity, in which the amount of percarboxylic acid is 0.5-5 kg/ton of pulp.